

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 130191
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 TRSE-00
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APPROVED BY EA:ROAKLEY
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-----083671 230433Z /23R

P R 230001Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130191

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ASEAN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN DIALOGUE: RTG POSITION

REF: MANILA 8216

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO INFORM DFA THAT US WELCOMES
GOP INTENTION TO MAINTAIN SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS ON
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION CULMINATING IN US-ASEAN JOINT
WORKING GROUP MEETING ON JUNE 5-6 IN MANILA. AS DFA IS
AWARE US EXPRESSED ITS READINESS TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS OF
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AT US-ASEAN MEETING IN MANILA IN
SEPTEMBER, REPEATED IT IN TWO SUBSEQUENT MEMORANDA ON
FOLLOW UP IN OCTOBER AND FEBRUARY. US TEAM IS READY TO
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MEET IN MANILA, JUNE 5-6. SHOULD MEETING NOW BE POSTPONED
IT IS UNCERTAIN WHEN US TEAM CAN AGAIN BE ASSEMBLED IN
VIEW OF PRESS OF OTHER BUSINESS. THIS WOULD BE
UNFORTUNATE IN VIEW OF ASEAN DESIRES FOR CONCRETE RESULTS
FROM US-ASEAN DIALOGUE.

2. DFA CAN ALSO BE TOLD THAT DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IS

ONE AREA IN WHICH WE CAN BEGIN TO ACHIEVE "CONCRETE RESULTS"
APPARENTLY SO MUCH DESIRED BY ASEAN MINISTERS. AS WE
HAVE PREVIOUSLY INDICATED (STATE 128436) WE WELCOME
PROPOSED LIST OF POSSIBLE AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

BETWEEN ASEAN AND THE US WHICH WITH ONE EXCEPTION FITS
AID NEW DIRECTIONS MANDATE.

3. DFA CAN BE INFORMED THAT VICE PRESIDENT WHILE IN
BANGKOK NOTED OUR STRONG INTEREST IN A US-ASEAN
MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING IN WASHINGTON IN AUGUST AND
EMPHASIZED THAT DEVELOPING A DIALOGUE WITH ASEAN AT THE
HIGHEST LEVELS IS LIKELY TO BE MUTUALLY THE MOST
BENEFICIAL. RTG FOREIGN MINISTER RAISED POSSIBILITY OF
HAVING MINISTERIAL MEETING DURING UNGA SESSION IN NEW
YORK. THE VICE PRESIDENT INDICATED THAT WE COULD
POSSIBLY CONSIDER THIS BUT THAT IT WOULD BE VERY
DIFFICULT TO GET THE TIME AND ATTENTION OF KEY US
PARTICIPANTS AT THAT TIME. PRIME MINISTER KRINGSAK
THEN INDICATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE
AUGUST DATE.

VANCE

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